REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated October 16, 2008 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-31 are currently pending, of which claims 8-31 are withdrawn from consideration. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Komiya (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0158587, hereinafter referred as Komiya) in view of Okuda (WO 03065334, hereinafter referred as Okuda); and claims 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komiya in view of Okuda, further in view of Morosawa (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0139251, hereinafter referred as Morosawa). These rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "... a bias switch, connected between the N-1th compensation voltage supply line and a control terminal of the driving TFT connected to the Nth compensation voltage supply line to apply a bias voltage to the driving TFT connected to the Nth compensation voltage supply line when a scan pulse is supplied to the N-1th gate line, wherein the bias switch is controlled by the scan pulse supplied to the N-1th gate line...." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and claims 2-7, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

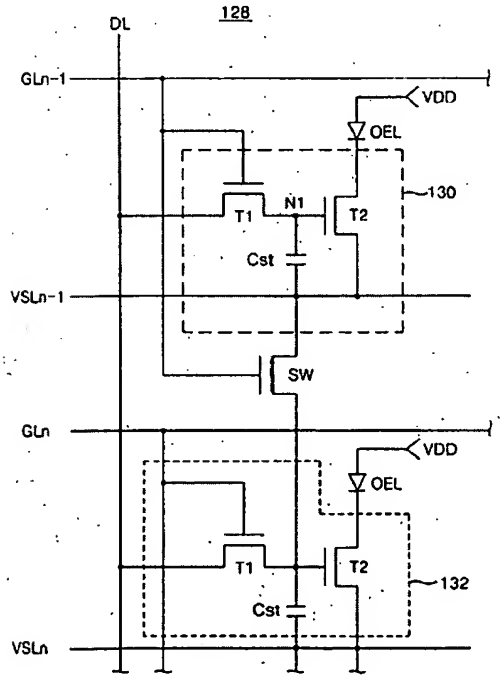
On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner cites the connection between N-1th compensation voltage supply line (e.g., second VEE line) and a control terminal of the driving TFT and a control terminal of the driving TFT (e.g., TFT2) connected to the Nth compensation voltage (e.g., TFT2) when a scan pulse is supplied to the N-1th gate lines (e.g., gate line 1, see Fig. 5) in Fig. 5 of Komiya. Also, the Examiner cites a bias switch at the scan line where bias control is applied when scan line is activated (i.e. the display controller 12 applies bias control to

the control circuitry 13 where each scan line is connected to at switch 31n) (see Okuda Fig. 3, Col. 5, Lines 23-52) as teaching the bias switch connected between the N-1th compensation voltage supply line and a control terminal of the driving TFT in claim 1.

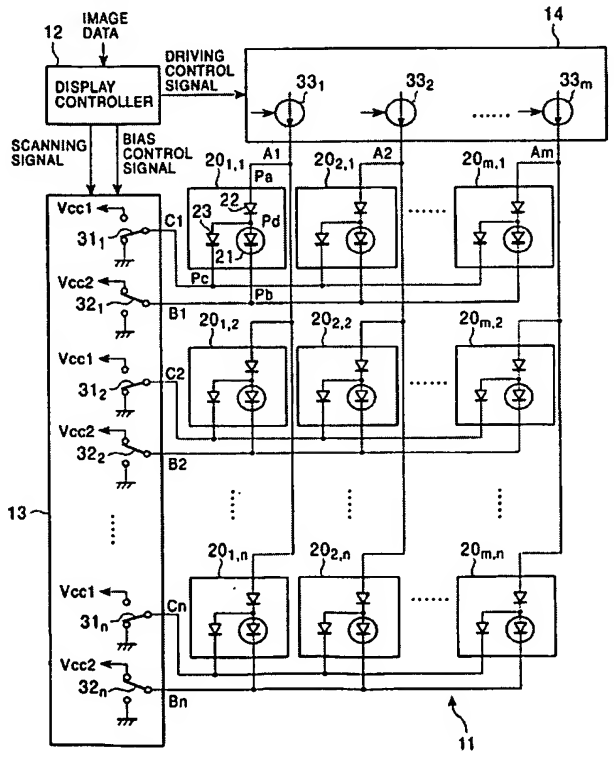
However, there are great differences between the bias switch of the claimed invention and those of Okuda and Komiya.

At first, the bias switch (SW) of the claimed invention is controlled by a scan pulse supplied to the N-1th scan line as known from the Fig. 6. On the other hand, each of reverse bias switches (31_1-31n) of Okuda is controlled by a bias control signal from a display controller (12) as shown from Fig. 3 and the description related to Fig. 3. Accordingly, the reverse bias switches of Okuda are different from the bias switch of the claimed invention. Komiya also fails to disclose the bias switch controlled by the scan pulse supplied to the scan line.

[Fig. 6 of the claimed invention]



[Fig. 3 of Okuda]



Secondly, the bias switch (SW) of the claimed invention is connected between the N-1th compensation voltage supply line (VSLn-1) and a control terminal of the driving TFT (T2) connected to the Nth compensation voltage supply line (VSLn). On the other hand, the reverse

bias switch (e.g. C1) of Okuda is connected between the reverse bias line (C1) and a potential Vcc1 or a ground potential. That is, the reverse bias switch (e.g. C1) is not connected to any control terminal of driving TFT. Accordingly, the reverse bias switches of Okuda are different from the bias switch the claimed invention. Komiya also fails to disclose the bias switch connected between the N-1th compensation voltage supply line (VSLn-1) and a control terminal of the driving TFT (T2) connected to the Nth compensation voltage supply line (VSLn).

Lastly, the bias switch (SW) of the claimed invention supplies a bias voltage from the N-1th compensation voltage supply line (VLSn-1) to the driving TFT connected to the Nth compensation voltage supply line when a scan pulse is supplied to the N-1th gate line because the scan pulse supplied to the N-1th gate line is also supplied to the bias switch. On the other hand, the reverse bias switch selectively supplies one of the potential Vcc1 and the ground potential to the reverse bias line (C1). Accordingly, Okuda fails to disclose the reverse bias switches supplying a bias voltage from the N-1th compensation voltage supply line to the driving TFT connected to the Nth compensation voltage supply line. Komiya also fails to disclose the bias switch described in the claimed invention.

Accordingly, there is not any suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify Komiya using the reverse bias switch of Okuda.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and claims 2-7, which depend from claim 1 are patentable over Komiya, Okuda and Morosawa because any one of Komiya, Okuda and Morosawa fails to teach, either expressly or inherently, at least these features of the claimed invention.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

By: _____

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